

Application No. 09/521,086
Amdt. Dated 10/06/2004
Reply to Office Action of 04/09/2004

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1 - 23 (canceled)

24. (withdrawn) A process for producing an implant with low effect on restenosis, characterized in that a coating made of titanium nitrid oxide is brought on the substrate under vacuum conditions and that subsequently the coated substrate is brought in contact with a solution containing albumin for a limited time interval.

25. (withdrawn) A process for producing an implant with low effect on restenosis, characterized in that a coating made of titanium nitrid oxide is brought on the substrate under vacuum conditions and that subsequently, for a limited time interval, the coated substrate is brought in contact with a solution containing albumin.

26. (withdrawn) A process according to claim 25, characterized in that the contact with a solution containing albumin is made by spraying.

27. (withdrawn) A process according to claim 26, characterized in that the contact with a solution containing albumin is made by immersing the implant into a solution, whereby the solution contains 1 to 30 %, preferably 1 to 15 % in weight of human albumin.

28. (withdrawn) A process according to claim 24, characterized in that the coating made of titanium nitrid oxide is generated in a vacuum oven at a temperature of 500 degrees Celsius.

29. (withdrawn) A process according to claim 24, characterized in that the contact with the solution containing albumin occurs after a time interval of 1 minute to 5 hours after the generation of the coating of titanium nitrid oxide.
30. (withdrawn) A process according to claim 24, characterized in that the contact with the solution containing albumin occurs without interim storage immediately after the generation of the coating of titanium nitrid oxide.
31. (withdrawn) A process according to claim 24, characterized in that the contact with the solution containing albumin is maintained for the duration up to one month for the purpose of storage of the implant.
32. (new) An article for implantation, insertion or attachment in or on the body of a mammal comprising a substrate which is coated at least partly with at least one first layer of titanium nitrid oxide and on which the first layer is then coated at least partly with at least one second layer of albumin, wherein the first layer of titanium nitrid oxide has a thickness between about 0 to about $5\mu\text{m}$ and a specific resistance from about 10 to $10^7 \mu\Omega\text{cm}$, wherein said coated article prevents or reduces intimal hyperplasia at the site of implantation, insertion or attachment in or on the body.
33. (new) The article of claim 32, wherein the substrate is steel.
34. (new) The article of claim 33, wherein the steel is steel 1440.

35. (new) The article of claim 32, wherein the second layer of coating is generated by contacting the article having the first coating of titanium nitrid oxide with a solution of about 1 to about 30% by weight human albumin.

36. (new) The article of claim 35, wherein the second layer of coating is generated by contacting the article having the first coating of titanium nitrid oxide with a solution of about 5% by weight human albumin.

37. (new) A method for preventing or reducing intimal hyperplasia at a site of implantation, insertion or attachment in or on the body of a mammal comprising contacting the article of claim 32 at the site, wherein the first and second coatings of the article are present in an amount effective to prevent or reduce intimal hyperplasia.

38. (new) A process for producing an article according to claim 32, wherein the titanium nitrid oxide is contacted with the substrate under vacuum conditions for an effective amount of time to generate a first layer of titanium nitrid oxide-coated substrate and wherein albumin in the form of a solution is brought in contact with the coated substrate for an effective amount of time to generate an albumin coating on the titanium nitrid oxide-coated substrate.

39. (new) An article produced by the process of claim 38 for implantation, insertion or attachment in or on the body of a mammal body comprising at least one first layer of titanium nitrid oxide and on which the first layer is then coated at least partly with at least one second layer of albumin, wherein said coated article prevents or reduces intimal hyperplasia at the site of implantation, insertion or attachment.